A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS

for 1971

*****

Ashburton Urban District Council
Dawlish Urban District Council
Newton Abbot Rural District Council
Newton Abbot Urban District Council
Teignmouth Urban District Council

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. H.M. Davies, M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

Dr. A.H. Halstead, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspectors

Ashburton Urban District	...	R.H. West, A.R.S.H.
Dawlish Urban District	...	L.A. Pickthall, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Newton Abbot Rural District	...	B.H. Young, M.A.P.H.I.
Newton Abbot Urban District	...	F.J. Webb, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
Teignmouth Urban District	....	P. Langston, M.A.P.H.I.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2016 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b28809981

ANNUAL REPORT 1971

Ashburton Urban District Council
Dawlish Urban District Council
Newton Abbot Rural District Council
Newton Abbot Urban District Council
Teignmouth Urban District Council

****

I present a combined Report for the five District Councils for which I am Medical Officer of Health.

Infectious Diseases

	Ashburton Urban	Dawlish Urban	Newton Abbot Rural	Newton Abbot Urban	Teignmouth Urban	Total
Dysentery	-	-	1	1	-	2
Encephalitis	-	-	1	-	-	1
Infective Jaundice	-	1	1	1	1	4
Measles	-	20	85	32	14	151
Scarlet Fever	-	-	3	-	-	3
Tuberculosis (non-respiratory)	-	2	1	6	-	9
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	-	3	4	6	-	13
Whooping Cough	-	5	13	12	-	30
	-	31	109	58	15	213

The list of infectious diseases shows little change over the year.

Measles is down in number by nearly a half, but this may be part of the normal behaviour in this disease as it tends to occur in epidemic proportions in every second year. However, there is hope that the whole campaign against measles is now beginning to bite and we will have to wait for another year or two to be fully convinced that the vaccination is proving as successful as we all hope.

There was, during the year, a total of 22 cases of Tuberculosis in its various forms, but nearly all of these occur in elderly persons where the disease was not playing an active part and it was commonly regarded as part of 'poor old grandpa's cough.' Unfortunately, 'poor old grandpa's cough' can be dangerous and it is from this residue of infection that the cases of younger persons are derived. This residue will, of course, eventually clear either through natural causes or through medical treatment and we have every reason to believe that tuberculosis will, within the next few years, become a clinical rarity.

30 cases of whooping cough were diagnosed and reported in the year, but here again I am somewhat doubtful if all these cases were true whooping cough, as it is rare for a case of whooping cough to be diagnosed by the identification of the organism concerned, and I have little doubt that many of these cases were in fact coughs of a rather less serious nature.

Still on the question of the notification of infectious diseases, it does appear to me that this list should be the subject of constant revision and that a disease, such as scarlet fever, which after all is diagnosed by the rash which is occasionally associated with streptococcal infections which occur in a severe sore throat. In most cases, of course, there is no rash and the disease is not then notifiable. It would seem that it would be sensible to notify all streptococcal infections whether they be accompanied by a rash or not.

In certain States of America, the notification system is much more widely used than in this country and diseases such as 'strokes', diabetes and cancer are notifiable and the modern concept of Epidemiology would, I think, welcome these notifications, as some of these conditions are very definitely preventable. The more knowledge and investigation which takes place would render prevention a far more feasible proposition.

Cause of Death

	Ashburton Urban	Dawlish Urban	Newton Abbot Rural	Newton Abbot Urban	Teignmouth Urban
Enteritis and other diarrhoeal diseases	-	-	-	-	1
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	2	2	-
Malignant neoplasm - Buccal cavity etc.	-	-	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm - Oesophagus	-	2	5	2	1
Malignant neoplasm - Stomach	2	4	9	4	3
Malignant neoplasm - Intestine	2	4	15	9	11
Malignant neoplasm - Lung, bronchus	3	6	21	14	11
Malignant neoplasm - Breast	2	7	6	8	7
Malignant neoplasm - Uterus	1	1	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm - Prostate	1	2	6	3	3
Leukaemia	-	-	1	4	2
Other malignant neoplasms	1	7	35	11	9
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	-	2	1	1	-
Diabetes mellitus	-	1	2	4	6
Avitaminoses, etc.	-	-	1	-	-
Anaemias	-	-	2	1	2
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	2	5	2	3
Hypertensive disease	1	1	6	7	4
Ischaemic heart disease	12	37	98	95	62
Other forms of heart disease	-	12	29	30	8
Cerebrovascular disease	11	16	53	46	49
Influenza	-	1	3	2	-
Pneumonia	3	13	15	15	10
Bronchitis and emphysema	2	2	13	7	7
Peptic Ulcer	-	-	3	2	3
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	-	-	2	-	2
Cirrhosis of liver	-	-	2	-	-
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	1	5	-
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	-	2	1
Congenital anomalies	-	1	2	1	1
	42	121	341	277	209

Causes of Death (cont.)

	Ashburton Urban	Dawlish Urban	Newton Abbot Rural	Newton Abbot Urban	Teignmouth Urban
Brought forward:	42	121	341	277	209
Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	-	2	-	1	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	-	-	-	2	-
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	1	-	9	26	2
Other endocrine etc. diseases	-	-	2	3	1
Mental disorders	-	-	1	-	-
Multiple sclerosis	-	-	3	-	-
Other diseases of nervous system	-	-	5	2	2
Other diseases of circulatory system	2	9	20	14	14
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	2	4	1	2
Other diseases of digestive system	3	-	7	2	4
Other diseases of genito-urinary system	1	-	4	2	2
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	-	1	2	1	2
Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2	4	-
All other accidents	2	2	6	4	5
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	-	-	2	-	3
All other external causes	-	-	1	2	-
	52	138	409	341	247

The list of causes of death, which have been notified in the Districts during the year, is again of very considerable interest and once again one is forced to comment on the high incidence of malignant neoplasm of the lung.

It is now twenty years since all Members of the Medical Profession were first asked to complete a questionnaire regarding their smoking habits and it is only just now that the last of these forms has been returned to the University of Oxford, where this work is still under investigation. It is, in my opinion, tragic that for all these long years during which the relationship between cigarette smoking and cancer of the lung has been developed from a mere suspicion into an absolute certainty, that we will see school children who are commencing this pernicious habit.

The incidence of death from ischaemic heart disease remains as it was, approximately 300 cases and here again it is proved that tobacco smoking is a very definite causative agent.

The basic public health requirements in an area, such as this, are first of all the provision of adequate sewerage and its associated sewage treatment plants and, secondly the provision of satisfactory arrangements for the collection and disposal of refuse.

Over the past few years, the various District Councils involved have taken very active steps to bring their drainage systems up to a very high standard and provided that there are not too great delays one could reasonably expect that all but the smallest hamlets in the District will have adequate sewerage systems within the next three to five years.

The facilities with regard to the disposal of refuse are however not so satisfactory in that each of the five District Councils is at present depending on using a system of controlled tipping, and the land which is available for this method of disposal is rapidly being used up. I have no doubt, in my mind, that controlled tipping will have to be abandoned except for emergencies and the disposal of old motor cars and the like, as required by the Civic Amenities Act. I am equally convinced that, expensive though it may be, the only system which will be acceptable will be the provision of a large centrally placed incinerator and I would strongly urge that urgent steps be taken by the various Councils jointly to produce a scheme for the planning of such an incinerator.

During the year, the full impact of the new Social Services Department has been felt and the basic difference appears to be that each of the Social Workers is now presumed to be an expert in the welfare of children, old people and mental health. I feel very strongly and my feeling is shared by the General Practitioners in the area, that the inclusion of the mental health services into the new Social Services Department is a retrograde step and the loss of the Social Worker in Mental Health is very much to be regretted.

I should like once again to thank the Chairmen, Councillors and all members of the staff for the help and co-operation received.

H.M. Davies

Medical Officer of Health

Ashburton Urban District

Area (in acres)	6,775
Estimated population mid 1971	3,470
Rateable Value as at the 1st January, 1971	£109,049
Rateable Value as at the 31st December, 1971	£109,762
Product of 1p rate 1971/1972 (Estimated)	£991

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	23	25	48
Illegitimate	2	1	3
	25	26	51

Crude live birth rate per 1000 population	...	14.69
Corrected live birth rate per 1000 population	...	18.06
Crude live birth rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	12.9
Corrected live birth rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	16.1
Live birth rate per 1000 population - England and Wales	...	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of live births	...	5.88

Stillbirths

No stillbirths occurred in Ashburton during 1971

Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon	...	12.0
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	...	12.0

Infant Mortality

No deaths of infants under one year occurred in Ashburton during 1971

Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births - Administrative County of Devon	...	13.23
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	...	18.0

Neonatal Mortality

No deaths of infants under four weeks occurred in Ashburton during 1971

Neonatal mortality rate per 1000 live births - Administrative County of Devon	...	8.48
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	...	12.0

Perinatal Mortality

No deaths of infants under one week occurred in Ashburton during 1971

Perinatal mortality rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon	...	18.77
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	...	10.0

Maternal Mortality

1 maternal death occurred within the Administrative County of Devon during 1971.

Deaths

Male	Female	Total
26	26	52

Crude death rate per 1000 population	...	14.98
Corrected death rate per 1000 population	...	9.88
Crude death rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	14.6
Corrected death rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	9.9
Death rate per 1000 population - England and Wales	...	11.6

Age at Death

	Male	Female
Infants under four weeks	-	-
Four weeks and under one year	-	-
1 - 4	-	-
5 - 14	-	-
15 - 24	-	-
25 - 34	-	-
35 - 44	1	-
45 - 54	1	3
55 - 64	3	-
65 - 74	7	5
75 and over	14	18
	26	26

Total: 52

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951

In no case was Official action, under Section 47 of the National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951, necessary during 1971.

Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector

Water

The area is served by the South West Devon Water Board.

Sewerage

The policy of progressive renewal of the old sewers in the district has continued during the year. A start has been made on the next stage involving a further 1,800 yards in the town area, and it is due for completion during 1972.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960

There are 47 food premises in the district made up as follows:-

Bakers and Confectioners	3
Butchers	3
Cafes	6
Dairies	1
General Provision	10
Greengrocers	4
Guest Houses	5
Licensed Premises	10
Fried Fish	1
	43

Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16	...	42
Number of premises to which Regulation 19 applies	...	43
Number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19	...	42

Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963

Carcases Inspected	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Totals
Number killed	163	4	800	327	1,294
Number inspected	163	4	800	327	1,294
All diseases other than Tuberculosis					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
% of animals inspected affected by disease other than Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
% of animals inspected affected by Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercus Bovis	-	-	-	-	-

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Table A - Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered During the Year	No. of Registered Premises at End of Year	No. of Registered Premises receiving a General Inspection During the Year
Offices	-	10	-
Retail Shops	3	27	9
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	-	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	5	3
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-
	3	42	12

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 (cont.)

Table B - Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises - 23

Table C - Analysis of Recorded Particulars of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	48
Retail Shops	67
Wholesale departments, warehouses	-
Catering establishments open to the public	19
Canteens	-
Fuel storage depots	-
	134

Factories Act, 1961

Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	15	4	-	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Excluding out-workers' premises)	3	-	-	-
	18	4	-	-

Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	1	-
(c) Not suitable for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	1	-

R.H. West

Public Health Inspector

Dawlish Urban District

Area (in acres)	5,380
Estimated population mid 1971	9,500
Rateable Value as at the 1st January, 1971	£357,596
Rateable Value as at the 31st December, 1971	£375,276
Product of 1p rate 1971/1972 (Estimated)	£3,529

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	45	49	94
Illegitimate	3	4	7
	48	53	101

Crude live birth rate per 1000 population	...	10.63
Corrected live birth rate per 1000 population	...	14.35
Crude live birth rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	12.9
Corrected live birth rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	16.1
Live birth rate per 1000 population - England and Wales	...	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of live births	...	6.93

Stillbirths

No stillbirths occurred in Dawlish during 1971

Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon	...	12.0
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	...	12.0

Infant Mortality

(Deaths of Infants under one year)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births	...	29.70
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births - Administrative County of Devon	...	13.23
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	...	18.0

Neonatal Mortality

(Deaths of Infants under four weeks)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neonatal mortality rate per 1000 live births	...	29.70
Neonatal mortality rate per 1000 live births - Administrative County of Devon	...	8.48
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	...	12.0

Perinatal Mortality

(Deaths of Infants under one week)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Perinatal mortality rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths	...	29.70
Perinatal mortality rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon	...	18.77
Corresponding rate for England and Wales	...	10.0

Maternal Mortality

1 maternal death occurred within the Administrative County of Devon during 1971.

Deaths

	Male	Female	Total
	68	70	138

Crude death rate per 1000 population	...	14.52
Corrected death rate per 1000 population	...	9.43
Crude death rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	14.6
Corrected death rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	9.9
Death rate per 1000 population - England and Wales	...	11.6

Age at Death

	Male	Female
Infants under four weeks	1	2
Four weeks and under one year	-	-
1 - 4	-	-
5 - 14	-	-
15 - 24	-	-
25 - 34	1	-
35 - 44	1	-
45 - 54	3	5
55 - 64	9	12
65 - 74	27	20
75 and over	26	31
	68	70

Total: 138

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951

In no case was Official action, under Section 47 of the National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951, necessary during 1971.

Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector

Water Supply

The following information has been supplied by the Director of Water Supplies, South West Devon Water Board, Mr. R.K. Harding, F.I.C.E., F.I.W.E., M.I. Mech.E.:-

(a) Source of Public Supply

All the water is obtained from the upland catchment area at Thorne and augmented during the summer months from a lowland pumped source at Duckaller and if necessary from Torquay Reservoir via Teignmouth.

(b) Distribution

From both the former sources, the supply is taken to a filtration, treatment and storage plant at Burrows Reservoir situated above the Town, from whence distribution is made of the treated water to all parts of the Urban District. Water is supplied to 3,242 dwelling houses with an estimated population of 9,500.

(c) Quantity

The total quantity of water supplied up to 31st December, 1971, amounted to 165,824,000 gallons, an average of 454,000 gallons per day. The peak month was July, when 20,244,000 gallons were supplied.

(d) Quality of Supply

The supply to the Town is dosed with sulphate of alumina, precipitated, gravity filtered and the natural acidity and induced acidity is corrected by a lime dose followed by the application of gaseous chlorine. The protection of the gathering ground and entry of unauthorised persons was given close attention.

Water Sampling

23 water samples were taken. 20 samples were satisfactory and three samples had slight bacterial contamination. (These were from a private supply.)

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

Sewage flows to three disintegrator stations situated at Holcombe, the Railway Viaduct and Sea Lawn. Two of these disintegrators are of the continuous rotary-drum screen type. Sewage from the northern part of the district, i.e. Dawlish Warren, Eastdon, Cofton, etc. is pumped via a new sewerage system in a series of pumping stations to the disintegrator at Sea Lawn and thence to the main outfall at Black Bridge. The disintegrated sewage from the Viaduct and Sea Lawn Stations is taken half a mile out to sea by outfall near Black Bridge. The Holcombe discharge enters the sea at a position below the rocks at Holcombe.

Refuse Disposal

Refuse is disposed of at the Council Tip at Shutterton Bridge, Exeter Road. Constant treatments were carried out at the Refuse Tip to reduce the fly and rodent infestations.

Public Health Act, 1936

Number of inspections made	129
Number of Preliminary Notices served	58
Number of Re-Inspections made	219
Number of Notices complied with	59
Number of Abatement Notices served	1

Disinfestation

3 premises were treated for swarming fly infestation
1 premises was treated for ant infestation
1 premises was treated for cluster fly infestation
2 premises were treated for flea infestation
3 hornets nests were destroyed
69 wasps nests were destroyed

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Rodent Control

In accordance with the instructions issued by the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, 10% of the sewers in the district are test baited annually. No evidence of infestation was found in the sewers test baited.

Treatments to private houses were made free of charge, but business premises are charged at the rate of 50p per hour.

	Council's Property	Dwelling House	Agriculture	Business	Total
No. of properties inspected	12	24	3	9	48
No. found to be infested by rats	8	14	3	6	31
No. seriously infested by mice	4	10	-	3	17
No. of properties treated	12	24	3	9	48

Caravan Sites and Holiday Camps

Total number of visits made to all sites .. 89

	Privately Owned Sites	
	Residential	Holiday
No. of site licences operating as at 31st December, 1971	6	14
(i) Individual	-	-
(ii) Multiple (more than 3)	6	15
Total number of caravans	78	869

	Local Authority Sites	
	Residential	Holiday
Total number of sites as at 31st December, 1971	-	1
No. of caravans	-	40 (Average)

Tented Camping Sites

	Private	Local Authority
No. of licensed sites as at 31st December, 1971	2	2
No. of tent pitches	401	60
No. of unlicensed sites in regular use during the year	-	-
Approximate no. of tent pitches	-	-
No. of sites of all kinds having satisfactory:-		
(i) Water supply	2	2
(ii) Sanitary accommodation	2	2
(iii) Washing facilities	2	1
(iv) Refuse facilities	2	2

Caravan and Camping Survey

During the first week in August a Holiday Camp and Camping Site Survey was carried out for inclusion in the County Council's Camping Survey. A reasonably accurate survey was made at the same time of the number of holiday-makers staying at the Holiday Camps, Chalet Parks and Camping Sites during that week; the number being 9,950 approximately.

Swimming Pools

Number of Inspections made 13

8 samples of swimming pool water were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. 6 samples were satisfactory and 2 samples were unsatisfactory.

Housing Acts

Unfit Houses

No. of dwelling houses surveyed	2
No. of houses represented to the Council as being unfit for human habitation	2
No. of Undertakings accepted	-
No. of Closing Orders made	-
No. of Demolition Orders made	-
No. of Closing Orders revoked and Demolition Orders substituted	-
No. of houses demolished following Demolition Orders	-
No. of people displaced:-	
(i) Individuals	1
(ii) Families	-
No. of housing reinspections	125
No. of Qualification Certificates issued	2
No. of houses made fit as a result of official representation	2

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Table A - Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered During the Year	No. of Registered Premises at End of Year	No. of Registered Premises receiving a General Inspection During the Year
Offices	2	30	3
Retail Shops	3	92	4
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1	2	-
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens etc.	-	25	-
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
	6	149	7

Table B - Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises - 33

Table C - Analysis of Recorded Particulars of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	106
Retail Shops	299
Wholesale departments, warehouses	17
Catering establishments open to the public	144
Canteens	1
Fuel storage depots	-
	567

Total Males: 194 Total Females: 373

Analysis of Contraventions in respect of:-

Section 6 - Temperature	2
Section 7 - Ventilation	2
Section 8 - Lighting	1
Section 9 - Sanitary Conveniences	1
Section 11 - Supply of drinking water	1
Section 12 - Clothing accommodation	1
Section 14 - Seats (Sedentary workers)	1
Section 16 - Floors, Passages and Stairs	2
Section 24 - First Aid	3
- Other Matters	3
	17
Number of re-inspections	19
Number of Notices complied with	2

Meat Inspection

Animals Slaughtered and Inspected and Particulars of Condemnation

	Cattle (Except Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	424	-	3	2,485	408	-
Number inspected	424	-	3	2,485	408	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	1	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	51	-	-	55	49	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	12.03	-	-	2.52	12.00	-
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	11	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Total weight of condemned meat 1,336 lbs.
Number of visits to slaughterhouses 308

Slaughterhouses

Slaughtering during the whole of the year took place at two private slaughterhouses:-

Hensford Farm, Dawlish
Stockton Road, Dawlish

Inspection of Other Foods

The following foodstuffs were examined and condemned as being unfit for human consumption:-

10	lbs.	Tomato Puree
6	lbs.	Corned Beef
12	lbs.	Leg of Pork
48	lbs.	Canned Chopped Pork
25½	lbs.	Canned Ham

Disposal of Condemned Food

Condemned meat from the slaughterhouses is disposed of by the butcher to a by-product manufacturing firm, who also arrange transport.

All other condemned foodstuffs are disposed of under supervision at the Council's Refuse Tip.

Inspection of Food Premises

Number of various food premises in the district:-

General Provision Shops, Green Grocers	34
Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars	28
Fishmongers, Shellfish Kiosks	2
Fried Fish Shops	3
Butchers	8
Confectionery Shops	8
Bakehouses	3
Mobile Food Shops and Vehicles	5
Licensed Premises	24
Hotels, Boarding Houses	70
School Canteens	5
Holiday Camp Shops	10
Convalescent Homes	3
Private Nursing Homes	4

Number of inspections of food premises:-

Type of Premises	Number of Inspections	Number of Notices Served
Fishmonger Shops	7	2
Bakehouses	3	1
Food Market	1	-
Cafes/Restaurants	29	3
General Provision Shops	32	5
School Canteens	8	3
Confectionery Shops	3	-
Hotels/Boarding Houses	40	6
Butchers Shops	29	1
Greengrocery Shops	2	-
Public Houses	22	6
Fried Fish Shops	3	1
Convalescent Homes	2	-
Food Vehicle	1	1
Refreshment Kiosks	15	5
Nursing Homes	3	1
Multiple Stores	2	-
Mobile Snack Bar	1	-
Shell Fish Kiosk	1	-
Snack Bar	1	-
	205	35

Number of re-inspections of food premises	123
Number of Notices complied with	81

Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947/1963

8 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination and the results were:-

6 - Grade I (Satisfactory)
2 - Grade II (Fairly Satisfactory)

Factories Act, 1961

Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	17	16	-	-
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	17	16	-	-

Cases in which Defects were found

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
	3	3	-	-	-

L.A. Pickthall

Public Health Inspector

Newton Abbot Rural District

Area (in acres)	92,452
Estimated population mid 1971	30,570
Rateable Value as at the 1st January, 1971	£915,047
Rateable Value as at the 31st December, 1971	£928,700
Product of 1p rate 1971/1972 (Estimated)	£8,770

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	197	195	392
Illegitimate	11	4	15
	208	199	407

Crude live birth rate per 1000 population ...	13.31
Corrected live birth rate per 1000 population ...	15.70
Crude live birth rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon ...	12.9
Corrected live birth rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon ...	16.1
Live birth rate per 1000 population - England and Wales ...	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of live births ...	3.68

Stillbirths

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	1	4
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths ...	12.13
Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon ...	12.0
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	12.0

Infant Mortality

(Deaths of Infants under one year)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births ...	7.37
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births - Administrative County of Devon ...	13.23
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	18.0

Neonatal Mortality

(Deaths of Infants under four weeks)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	-	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neonatal mortality rate per 1000 live births ...	4.91
Neonatal mortality rate per 1000 live births - Administrative County of Devon ...	8.48
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	12.0

Perinatal Mortality

No deaths of infants under one week occurred in the Newton Abbot Rural District during 1971.

Perinatal mortality rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths- Administrative County of Devon ...	18.77
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	10.0

Maternal Mortality

1 maternal death occurred within the Administrative County of Devon during 1971.

Deaths

	Male	Female	Total
	205	204	409

Crude death rate per 1000 population	...	13.37
Corrected death rate per 1000 population	...	10.29
Crude death rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	14.6
Corrected death rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	9.9
Death rate per 1000 population - England and Wales	...	11.6

Age at Death

	Male	Female
Infants under four weeks	2	-
Four weeks and under one year	1	-
1 - 4	-	-
5 - 14	2	1
15 - 24	-	1
25 - 34	2	-
35 - 44	5	1
45 - 54	9	5
55 - 64	24	24
65 - 74	75	46
75 and over	85	126
	205	204

Total: 409

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951

In no case was Official action, under Section 47 of the National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951, necessary during 1971.

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

General Inspection of the District

Many complaints and enquiries, both written and verbal, were received in the department during the year. The number of visits carried out in connection with these and other routine matters are listed below:-

Annimal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963	23
Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960	239
Civic Amenities Act, 1967	123
Clean Air Act, 1956	5
Factories Act, 1961	9
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	123
Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970	118
Food and Milk Sampling	1
Housing Acts - General	267
Housing Acts - Improvement Grants	717
Housing Acts - Qualification Certificates	142
Infectious Disease Enquiries	10
Mobile Shops	-
National Assistance Act, 1948	5
Noise Abatement Act, 1960	13
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	31
Public Health Act, 1936/1961	408
Refuse Collection and Disposal	317
Rodent Control and Other Pests:-	
(i) By Inspectors	19
(ii) By Rodent Operator	999
Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964	1
Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspection	408
Water Supply (Domestic)	50
Other Visits	70
	4,098

Housing

The condition of houses included in the Sub-Standard list have been kept under observation during the year and formal action has been taken on properties where it has been possible to rehouse the families. In the main, it has been found that the houses, which have become vacant, are quickly improved by the owners.

Unfit dwellings represented	10
Undertakings accepted	10
Number of dwellings made fit	21
Number of dwellings demolished	2

A total of 1,226 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors in respect of housing matters generally, detailed as follows:-

(Previous year's figures shown in brackets)

Under Housing Acts		
Visits and inspections	267	(288)
House Improvement Grants		
Visits and inspections	717	(555)
Qualification Certificates		
Visits and inspections	142	(21)

Housing (cont.)

Improvement Grants and Standard Grants

The increase in the number of applications received for Improvement Grants during previous years has again continued. 90 applications were received during the year compared with 83 for 1970.

Details of these applications are as follows:-

	No. of Applications	No. of Grants Paid	Total Amount of Grants Paid
Improvement Grants	39	32	£20,614.
Standard Grants	51	41	£7,921.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Table A - Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered During the Year	No. of Registered Premises at End of Year	No. of Registered Premises receiving a General Inspection During the Year
Offices	4	25	8
Retail Shops	1	50	16
Wholesake shops, warehouses	1	14	3
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens etc.	-	11	-
Fuel storage depots	-	1	-
	6	101	27

Table B - Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises - 31

Table C - Analysis of Recorded Particulars of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	190
Retail Shops	147
Wholesale departments, warehouses	164
Catering establishments open to the public	54
Canteens	1
Fuel storage depots	9
	565

Total Males: 344 - Total Females: 221

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 and Public Health Act, 1936:- Section 269

During the year, 239 visits and inspections were made by the Public Health Inspectors to the Caravan and Camping Sites and a considerable amount of office administrative work was carried out in connection with the annual survey of the sites within this District.

Over-night parking in lay-byes and on the roadside appeared to be reduced this year, although there was no evidence of any decrease in the number of touring caravans in the area. It is essential that extra sites and facilities are made available for touring caravans in order to prevent nuisances, which arise where satisfactory facilities are not available.

Food Premises - Visits and Inspections

Inspection of Meat

Visits to slaughterhouses and other premises	408

Inspection of Other Foods

Grocers, Wholesalers, etc.	341
Miscellaneous visits	17

Food Inspection

During the year the following foodstuffs were surrendered as unfit for human consumption:-

	Tons	Cwts.	lbs.
Canned meats	-	2	10
Other canned foods	3	7	71
Fruit and vegetables	6	5	28
Frozen foods due to cabinet breakdown	-	4	2
Other foods	-	2	12
	10	1	11

All food condemned within the District is buried at the Council's Refuse Tip.

Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

There are six licensed slaughterhouses in the District. Four of these premises were in regular use and two only slaughtered infrequently during the year.

There was no cause for serious complaint in respect of any of these premises and minor items have been dealt with promptly by the owners.

Week-end slaughtering is carried out at two slaughterhouses, which not only involves Inspectors in over-time duties, but makes it impossible to implement the requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations.

These facts, together with the expense involved, were reported to the Council, who agreed to limit the hours of slaughtering within this Rural District to a five day week - this to operate from the 1st January, 1972.

Carcases Inspected

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Totals
Number killed	1,756	504	143	7,444	5,533	15,380
Number inspected	1,756	504	143	7,444	5,533	15,380
All diseases other than Tuberculosis						
Whole carcases condemned	5	20	4	30	21	80
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	1,219	237	5	3,016	2,473	6,950
% of animals inspected affected by disease other than Tuberculosis	69.70	51.0	6.29	40.91	45.07	45.18
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	16	16
% of animals inspected affected by Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	.28	-
Cysticercus Bovis infestations	3	-	-	-	-	3

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The present arrangements for refuse collection continued during the year and the practice of providing plastic sacks prior to public holidays seems to operate quite successfully.

As in previous years, all refuse collected within the area was disposed of by controlled tipping at the Council's Refuse Tip at Higher Sandygate. Adequate precautions were taken to prevent the spread of flies or vermin from this area and the measures taken proved very successful.

Civic Amenities Act

Indiscriminate dumping was again experienced this year and a great deal of time and expense was involved in its clearance.

Abandoned motor vehicles were also a source of trouble, although in the majority of cases the existing or previous owner was found and the offending vehicle was eventually removed.

National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 50

During the year, it was necessary for the Local Authority to take action under this Section in the case of one person, who died within the area.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963

During the year, there were eight licensed premises - an increase of one over the previous year. In all cases the requirements of the Act were complied with and there has been no cause for complaint during the period.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

This year, it has been possible for the Rodent Operator to be employed full-time in this capacity, with the result that he has been able to carry out more routine inspections of farms, together with other rodent control duties. I consider that these farm inspections are of great importance, as the majority of infestations in domestic premises can be traced to nearby or adjoining farms. The Operator has obtained a great deal of co-operation from farmers concerned and, where necessary, treatments have been carried out either by the occupiers or our Operator to clear the infestations.

Factories Act, 1961

Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	4	-
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	93	9
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-

Cases in which defects were found	2
Cases in which defects were remedied	2

B.H. Young

Chief Public Health Inspector

Newton Abbot Urban District

Area (in acres)	4,156
Estimated population mid 1971	19,680
Rateable Value as at the 1st January, 1971	£841,682
Rateable Value as at the 31st December, 1971	£854,947
Product of 1p rate 1971/1972 (Estimated)	£8,189

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	129	113	242
Illegitimate	5	8	13
	134	121	255

Crude live birth rate per 1000 population ...	12.95
Corrected live birth rate per 1000 population ...	14.37
Crude live birth rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon ...	12.9
Corrected live birth rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon ...	16.1
Live birth rate per 1000 population - England and Wales ...	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of live births ...	5.09

Stillbirths

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths ...	19.23
Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon ...	12.0
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	12.0

Infant Mortality
(Deaths of Infants under one year)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births ...	23.52
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births - Administrative County of Devon ...	13.23
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	18.0

Neonatal Mortality
(Deaths of Infants under four weeks)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Neonatal mortality rate per 1000 live births ...	15.68
Neonatal mortality rate per 1000 live births - Administrative County of Devon ...	8.48
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	12.0

Perinatal Mortality
(Deaths of Infants under one week)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	1	-	1

Perinatal mortality rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths ...	7.69
Perinatal mortality rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon ...	18.77
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	10.0

Maternal Mortality

1 maternal death occurred within the Administrative County of Devon during 1971

Deaths

	Male	Female	Total
	170	171	341

Crude death rate per 1000 population	...	17.32
Corrected death rate per 1000 population	...	10.21
Crude death rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	14.6
Corrected death rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	9.9
Death rate per 1000 population - England and Wales	...	11.6

Age at Death

	Male	Female
Infants under four weeks	3	1
Four weeks and under one year	1	1
1 - 4	-	-
5 - 14	-	3
15 - 24	1	-
25 - 34	1	1
35 - 44	2	1
45 - 54	5	6
55 - 64	26	9
65 - 74	59	26
75 and over	72	123
	170	171

Total: 341

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951

Official action, under Section 47 of the National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951, was necessary in one case during 1971.

Food Inspection

Meat Inspection

Number of condemnation certificates issued - 964

The number of animals slaughtered at the Public Abattoir is shown together with the figures for the previous five years.

Meat Inspection Regulations

All carcases passing through the Public Abattoir have been inspected involving 463 separate visits, thus maintaining the 100% inspection figure.

Carcases Inspected

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	4,876	476	211	6,859	4,043
Number inspected	4,876	476	211	6,859	4,043
All diseases other than Tuberculosis					
Whole carcase condemned	3	2	27	52	8
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	976	99	11	141	473
% of animals inspected affected by disease other than Tuberculosis	20.08	21.22	18.01	2.81	11.9
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	2
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	54
% of animals inspected affected by Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.39
No. of cases of Cysticercus Bovis	29	-	-	-	-

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Bullocks	3,611	3,675	4,155	4,259	5,540	5,352
Calves	3,643	2,391	1,859	1,069	336	211
Sheep	9,778	7,889	11,342	9,026	7,446	6,859
Pigs	4,371	4,158	4,966	4,459	4,358	4,043
	21,403	18,113	22,322	18,813	17,680	16,465

Ice-cream

The number of ice-cream samples taken were:-

Grade 1	-	Satisfactory	3
Grade 2	-	Fairly satisfactory	5
Grade 3	-	Unsatisfactory	Nil
Grade 4	-	Very bad	Nil

Number of visits - 9

Unsound Food

During the course of the year, the following foodstuffs have been found to be unfit for human consumption:-

4	Cattle carcases	40	Cans fruit juice
30	Calves carcases	3,006	Packets frozen foods
29	Sheep carcases	46	lbs. poultry
10	Pigs carcases	21	Tins milk
42	Cattle heads	84	Tins milk pudding
54	Pigs heads	108	lbs. flour
1,785	Offal and parts	19	Jars assorted jams
617	lbs. meat	1	Pie filling
716	Tins fruit	345	Packets assorted goods
529	Tins vegetables	71	lbs. fats
283	Tins meat	12	Jars coffee
543	Assorted tins		

General

Eight complaints regarding unsound food were made at the office during the year under consideration and these were dealt with informally.

No. of informal notices served	9
No. of informal notices complied with	8
Inspections made of food handling premises	136

Meat (Sterilisation) Regulations 1969

Visits to knackers' yards and pet shops	11

Analytical examination of treated meat from a local knacker's yard has revealed that although the meat has been adequately treated to comply with the requirements of the Regulations, it is certainly not sterile and may be a risk to health during further handling. This matter has been pursued with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and with the Association of Public Health Inspectors.

Public Abattoir

With a further decrease in slaughtering turnover and increases in running costs, it has been impossible to provide a surplus of funds to continue improvements at the Public Abattoir. A reappraisal of costs will be carried out at the beginning of 1972 to ensure that sufficient funds are available to continue with these improvements.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

Premises where Sections 16 and 19 are applicable

Grocers	32
Bakers and Flour Confectioners	11
Butchers	14
Fish and Chip Cafes	5
Restaurants	21
Fish Mongers	2
Public Houses	23
Fruiterers	6
Baker Shops	4
	118

The number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16	-	118
The number of premises to which Regulation 19 applies	-	118
The number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19	-	118

Market, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles (Regulations) 1966

No. of visits made	8
Informal action taken	3

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963

The number of premises registered during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1971, were four, details as follows, making a total to date of 400.

Offices	2
Retail Shops	1
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens etc.	-
Fuel storage depots	-
	4
No. of visits	31
No. of Informal Notices served	6
No. of Notices complied with	6
Proceedings taken	-

No accidents requiring the employee to be absent from offices or shops for more than three days were reported.

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928

No. of premises licensed	56
No. of inspections made	210
No. of contraventions found	255

Petroleum Acts Administration

The office system of administration of the Petroleum Acts has been revised and during the year all the licensed premises within the area have been inspected. This has brought to light 255 contraventions of the Home Office Model Code requirements and Informal Notices were sent in all cases. A number of errors in licensing applications were also revealed.

24 disused underground petroleum storage tanks were dealt with as follows:-

1. 15 tanks, which were disused but contained a small amount of petroleum spirit and explosive gas, were discovered and 14 of these have been filled with cement slurry or water depending on future proposals. Formal action on the other tank is pending.

2. 4 disused tanks, which had been filled, were located and their sites noted for future reference.

3. The filling of 5 tanks on premises where licences have been relinquished has been supervised.

An explosimeter was obtained to check the atmospheric conditions on a tunnelling site in the town, where two workers had been overcome by petroleum fumes. The contamination of the soil, which had caused the dangerous conditions, was traced to seepage from a long disused petroleum installation, which had not been satisfactorily closed down. Advice on rendering the site safe was given and the explosimeter was used to make regular atmospheric tests at the site.

The explosimeter has since proved invaluable in investigating other complaints of smells in the district.

Electricians' certificates have been required in respect of the 29 licensed premises where they apply and in almost all cases work has been required to render the premises electrically safe.

24 hour self-service petroleum spirit facilities have opened on two existing filling station sites in the area and the installation of additional equipment required by the Home Office Model Code is being enforced.

Factories Act 1961

Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	6	-	-	-
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	72	13	-	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	10	-	-	-
	88	13	-	-

Factories Act 1961 (continued)

Cases in which defects were found

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	1	-	-
	3	1	1	-	-

Housing

No. of Council houses constructed - 12
No. of private houses constructed - 96

Housing Act 1969

Qualification Certificates

	Associated with Improvement Grants	Others
No. of certificates applied for	10	13
No. of certificates granted	5	5
No. of certificates refused	-	5
No. of visits involved	30	46

Improvement Grants

	No. of properties receiving grant	Total amount of grants paid
Standard grants	21	£3,642.52
Discretionary grants	72	£34,293.23

Public Health and Housing Acts

A summary of the work carried out under this heading is as follows:-

No. of houses inspected under the Public Health Acts	297
No. of houses inspected under the Housing Acts	67
No. of Informal Notices served	18
No. of Statutory Notices served	4
No. of notices complied with	12
No. of part of dwellings closed	1
No. of dwellings closed	1
No. of inspections made	637
No. of dwellings demolished	-
No. of verminous houses and other disinfestations treated	29

Drainage

No. of premises visited	79
No. of tests applied	35
No. of visits	129

Swimming Pool and Paddling Pool

Regular sampling of the local swimming pool water has revealed excellent results in respect of the swimming pool, which uses treated water, but far poorer results in respect of the paddling pool, which uses raw water. Experiments and investigations to ascertain a satisfactory means of treating the paddling pool water have been conducted and further information is now awaited.

Noise Abatement

No. of cases dealt with	16
No. of visits	42

Rodent Control

47 private dwellings and 7 other premises were treated for rodent infestation, a total of 162 visits being made in this connection. There has been no evidence of Warfarin resistance in the district. Warfarin baits have been used with continuing success but, in order to avoid the possibility of creating pockets of resistance, alternative poisons have been introduced where conditions have justified their use.

Sewer Treatments

Two treatments of the sewerage system of the town were carried out.

Clean Air Act

No. of visits	21
No. of Informal Notices	5
No. of Notices complied with	5

Other Work

Moveable dwellings - No. of visits	2
Water supply - No. of visits	6
Disease prevention - sewer swabs - No. of tests	4
Searches	800
Old person's homes	3

Refuse Collection and Disposal

(i) Collection operations have continued with few problems. Difficulties were initially experienced with regard to access and tipping arrangements at Firestone Lane Tip, but these were overcome by the provision of a secondary access.

(ii) Through the media of the press, the public have been reminded once again that facilities are available at the Pulveriser, Brunel Road, for the disposal of bulky household refuse. The Pulveriser premises are kept open solely for this purpose on Saturday mornings and the service is well used by many householders.

The direct result of this service is evident in the significant decline in the number of cases of fly-tipping. Even so, there remains a hard core of anti-social citizens who persist in this type of offence despite the fact that it probably involves more time and effort!

Appreciation

I would like to record my thanks to Inspectors and Clerical staff in this office for their co-operation and also thank colleagues in other departments for their assistance and advice and to express my appreciation for the support accorded me by Members of this Council.

F.J. Webb

Chief Public Health Inspector

Teignmouth Urban District

Area (in acres)	2,068
Estimated population mid 1971	12,610
Rateable Value as at the 1st January, 1971	£532,631
Rateable Value as at the 31st December, 1971	£554,369
Product of 1p rate 1971/1972 (Estimated)	£5,182

Live Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	68	53	121
Illegitimate	8	9	17
	76	62	138

Crude live birth rate per 1000 population ...	10.94
Corrected live birth rate per 1000 population ...	16.95
Crude live birth rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon ...	12.9
Corrected live birth rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon ...	16.1
Live birth rate per 1000 population - England and Wales ...	16.0
Illegitimate live births per cent of live births ...	12.31

Stillbirths

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths ...	7.19
Stillbirth rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon ...	12.0
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	12.0

Infant Mortality
(Deaths of Infants under one year)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births ...	14.49
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births - Administrative County of Devon ...	13.23
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	18.0

Neonatal Mortality
(Deaths of Infants under four weeks)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Neonatal mortality rate per 1000 live births ...	7.24
Neonatal mortality rate per 1000 live births - Administrative County of Devon ...	8.48
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	12.0

Perinatal Mortality
(Deaths of Infants under one week)

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Perinatal mortality rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths ...	7.19
Perinatal mortality rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths - Administrative County of Devon ...	18.77
Corresponding rate for England and Wales ...	10.0

Maternal Mortality

1 maternal death occurred within the Administrative County of Devon during 1971.

Deaths

	Male	Female	Total
	106	141	247

Crude death rate per 1000 population	...	19.58
Corrected death rate per 1000 population	...	9.98
Crude death rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	14.6
Corrected death rate per 1000 population - Administrative County of Devon	...	9.9
Death rate per 1000 population - England and Wales	...	11.6

Age at Death

	Male	Female
Infants under four weeks	1	-
Four weeks and under one year	-	1
1 - 4	1	-
5 - 14	-	-
15 - 24	-	1
25 - 34	-	-
35 - 44	1	-
45 - 54	4	1
55 - 64	13	9
65 - 74	34	33
75 and over	52	96
	106	141

Total: 247

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951

Official action, under Section 47 of the National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951, was necessary in two cases during 1971.

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

During the year, work was commenced on the replacement sewer through the Coombe Valley and upon completion this will provide considerable improvement over the existing sewer, which frequently surcharged and caused serious pollution of Bitton Brook.

Many complaints were again received about the nuisance caused by the sewer outfall on the river beach and frequent inspections were made in connection with this problem.

A total of 121 visits were made in connection with sewerage and sewage disposal.

Refuse and Refuse Disposal

Refuse is disposed of at the Council's Tip at Broadmeadow, Bishopsteignton Road and controlled tipping is carried out with the refuse being covered daily.

Water Supply

The following information has been supplied by the Executive Engineer to the South West Devon Water Board, Mr. R.K. Harding, C.Eng., F.I.C.E., F.I.W.E., A.M.I. Mech.E.

(a) Source of Public Supply

All the water is obtained from the catchment areas of Tottiford and Venford on Dartmoor. A borehole situated at Mylor, Teignmouth, is used only as a stand-by source of supply.

(b) Distribution

From the above sources the water is taken to treatment plants at Tottiford and Venford, where it is filtered and treated. The water is then conveyed by trunk main to Teignmouth, but supplies the Rural Areas of Newton Abbot and St. Thomas as well as the Urban District of Newton Abbot en route.

Water is supplied to 5,699 dwellings with an estimated population of 12,554.

(c) Quantity

The total quantity of water supplied up to 31st December, 1971, amounted to 277,765,000 gallons, which is equivalent to 60 gallons per person of the resident population.

(d) Quality

Aluminium sulphate and soda ash are added to the water, which is then precipitated and pressure filtered. Lime is added to neutralise the natural acidity and reduce the corrosive tendency. Finally chlorine is added to sterilise the water.

Water Sampling

	Number Taken	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Mains Supply	3	3	-
Private Supply	3	1	2
Swimming Pools	14	12	2
Dock Hydrants	1	1	-

Yachting Pool - Sea Front

This pool was again used by very large numbers of children during the hot weather and in consequence it proved to be difficult to maintain a reasonable chlorine level over a prolonged hot spell. It was found necessary at one stage to empty and cleanse the pool due to a heavy growth of algae.

A total of 168 visits were made in connection with water supply and swimming pools.

Public Health Acts, 1936/1961

No. of inspections made under general requirements	88
No. of inspections made under drainage requirements	79
No. of inspections made under filthy or verminous persons or premises requirements	17
No. of preliminary notices under general requirements	22
No. of preliminary notices under drainage requirements	52
No. of preliminary notices under filthy or verminous persons or premises requirements	13
No. of notices complied with under general requirements	18
No. of notices complied with under drainage requirements	47
No. of notices complied with under filthy or verminous persons or premises requirements	13

No. of Abatement Notices served	Nil
Total No. of re-inspections for all purposes	537

Noise Abatement Act, 1960

Nine complaints were received during the year of noise from various sources. The most unusual noise reported was a humming/drone which suddenly occurred in a premises along the Strand at Shaldon. This was eventually traced back to a Danish motor ship, lying in Teignmouth Dock, which had a particular type of exhaust blower fitted in the funnel. The nuisance was abated immediately as the vessel sailed on the afternoon tide.

A more difficult situation has been investigated in regard to noise occurring within a boat-yard and affecting nearby houses. Consultations and meetings have taken place between all affected parties, but the position is still unresolved.

A total of 75 visits were made in connection with noise.

Clean Air Act, 1956

The most usual source of complaint under this Act is from the burning of garden rubbish or clearing of sites. One complaint however was in connection with the incorrect combustion of an oil fired central heating installation, which was causing a nuisance from fumes and smuts to adjoining houses. In this and all the other complaints an informal approach to the person concerned was sufficient to prevent any further nuisance.

Disinfestation

57 premises were treated for wasp infestation
3 premises were treated for cockroach infestation
3 premises were treated for wild bee infestation
6 premises were treated for flea infestation
3 premises were treated for clover mites, ants and maggots respectively.

Rodent Control

A full test bait of the town sewers was carried out during April and this revealed only minor infestations which were then treated. It is becoming increasingly difficult to carry out this procedure, due to lack of manpower.

	Dwelling House	Agricultural	Total
No. of properties inspected	137	1	138
No. of properties infested by rats	102	1	103
No. of properties infested by mice	29	-	29
Total No. of properties treated	131	1	132

A total of 771 visits were made in connection with rodent control.

Caravan Sites

	Residential	Holiday
No. of site licences operating as at 31st December, 1971		
(i) Individual	1	1
(ii) Multiple (more than 3)	-	3
No. of exempted sites (Caravan Club)	-	1
Total No. of caravans	1	287

Total No. of visits to all sites - 48
Total No. of visits to tented camping sites - 9

Housing Acts 1957, 1961 and 1969

No. of dwelling houses surveyed	19
No. of houses represented to the Council as being unfit for human habitation	-
No. of Undertakings accepted	-
No. of Closing Orders made	-
No. of Demolition Orders made	-
No. of houses made fit as a result of official representation	4
No. of Closing Orders revoked and Demolition Orders substituted	-
No. of people rehoused by Local Authority from above	-
No. of Notices served under Section 9	-
No. of housing re-inspections	47
No. of Qualification Certificates issued	8
No. of Qualification Certificates refused	3
No. of visits regarding Qualification Certificates	107
No. of visits in connection with Improvement Grants	47
No. of visits in connection with Council Housing and allocations	642
No. of visits in connection with Central Development Area and Road Schemes	207
No. of premises from which tenants removed in connection with Central Development and Road Schemes	9
No. of persons rehoused from Central Development and Road Schemes	
Adults	- 14
Children	- 19

The present trend, under the Housing Acts, is toward helping owners to maintain and improve existing properties with the incentive of Grants and rent increases. Many landlords are now taking the opportunity of applying for Qualification Certificates, which has the effect of changing a controlled tenancy to a regulated tenancy and thus giving the landlord an economic rent for his property. The pressure for any type of housing is also such that almost any property, within this area, is bought and improved. Properties that only a few years ago may have been considered suitable for Closing or Demolition Order procedure are now becoming desirable residencies, as shortage of land for new houses forces people to buy existing dwellings, therefore, creating an increased demand in this sphere.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Table A - Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of Premises Registered During the Year	No. of Registered Premises at End of Year	No. of Registered Premises receiving a General Inspection During the Year
Offices	-	41	-
Retail Shops	-	110	1
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	3	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens etc.	-	34	-
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
	-	188	1

Table B - Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to Registered Premises - 58

Table C - Analysis of Recorded Particulars of Persons Employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	263
Retail Shops	472
Wholesale shops, warehouses	18
Catering establishments open to the public	180
Canteens	2
Fuel storage depots	-
	935

Total Males: 290 Total Females: 645

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Inspection of Meat

A total of 23 visits were made to slaughterhouses in the Dawlish Urban District for stand-in meat inspection.

Inspection of Other Foods

The following foodstuffs were examined and condemned as being unfit for human consumption:-

Meat in Retail Shops, canteens etc.	210 lbs.
Canned meat and meat products	130 lbs.
Wet fish	898 lbs.
Frozen fish	36 lbs.
Canned fish	3 lbs.
Canned fruit and vegetables	160 lbs.
Frozen vegetables	122 lbs.
Frozen foods (various)	50 lbs.

Total number of visits - 72

Sampling of Food

Samples of food obtained and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Exeter:-

Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947/1963

15 samples of soft ice-cream were taken and 6 were found to be satisfactory. The remaining 9 samples were, with one exception, found to be Grade 3. Two premises only were involved with 9 of the samples and the results from these two premises were somewhat inconsistent, alternating between satisfactory and unsatisfactory. Both of the premises have a very high standard of hygiene and cleaning of the soft ice-cream machines is carried out most scrupulously in both

Sampling of Food

Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations 1947/1963

cases.

Other Authorities have had similar results with the Methylene Blue Test, which was intended originally as a standard of keeping quality for milk, and has been modified to apply a standard to ice-cream. At the moment there is no substitute for this test, which is regarded only as an indication and not a legal standard.

A total of 48 visits were made in connection with sampling and sale of ice-cream.

Public Health (Shellfish) Regulations, 1934 and 1948

Mussels continue to be taken from the layings in the River Teign and pass through the cleansing tanks situated on the Fish Quay, before going for sale to various markets.

6 samples were taken, 5 of which were found to be satisfactory. The unsatisfactory sample was taken in late December and further sampling will be continued in the coming year.

24 visits were made in connection with mussel sampling.

Other Food Samples

1 sample of pasteurised cream was taken and found to be Grade 1.

Complaints of Unfit Food

During the year, 12 complaints of unfit food were notified and investigations carried out by the Department. Mould was, as usual, the biggest cause of complaint and was found in bread, crumpets and chocolate spread. Warning and advice were given to the shop-keepers on the correct storage and rotation of stock.

Extraneous objects were the next most important group and included string in bread, metal in tinned sardines and glass in milk and a pasty. The two cases of glass were reported to the Council and a strong warning letter was sent to the Baker responsible for allowing glass to get into the pasty.

The Dairy responsible for allowing glass in a bottle of milk were again prosecuted and a fine of £75 and £10 costs was imposed by the Magistrates Court.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970

Inspection of Food Premises

Type of Premises	No. in area	No. to which Sec. 16 and Sec. 19 applies	No. of Inspections
General Provision	31	31	40
Greengrocers	15	14	11
Restaurants, cafes, snack bars	34	34	95
Fish wholesaler	1	1	21
Fishmongers, shellfish kiosks	5	5	10
Fried fish shops	5	5	18
Butchers	9	9	33
Confectionery shops	25	15	10
Bakehouses	6	6	14
Mobile food shops and vehicles	4	4	6
Licensed Premises	27	27	42
Hotels, Boarding Houses	105	105	93
School canteens	5	5	10
Holiday Camp shops	3	2	7
Old People's Homes (D.C.C. Reg.)	9	9	10
Supermarkets	4	4	41
Dairies, Ice-Cream kiosks	12	3	30

Factories Act, 1961

Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections
Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	2	3
Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	30	42
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-
	32	45

Cases in which Defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable	2	1	-	-	-

Port Health and River Pollution

78 visits were made to the dock area in connection with water supply, pollution, rodent control and import of animals.

3 incidents of oil pollution occurred in the river, one of which was a spillage of fuel oil in the Newton Abbot Urban District. The two others were thought to have been caused by vessels in the harbour, but investigations were unable to prove this conclusively.

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928

Number of premises licensed	18
Number of inspections made	116

P. Langston

Chief Public Health Inspector